

Positive Alternatives 2014 - 15 Quarterly Update

Grantee: EPIPHANY CARING FOR LIFE

Goal: Provide pregnancy support services to pregnant women and families in Anoka County

For the period: January 1 – March 31, 2015

Activity or Service	Activity or Service Description Major Work Plan Activities	Work Plan Count	Program Progress and Accomplishments Report the progress and accomplishments made this period on each activity.	Report Count
Administrative Activities	Service Coordinator: Provide guidance to grant staff, attend grant meetings, complete grant forms; manage grant funds and program donations; schedule/report meetings; recruit, screen and train volunteer; update guidelines and protocols; track baby equipment supply/requests/recalls, develop resources to expand supply; track housing resources and emergency shelter availability; reorganize and update baby closet		Conducted cross training (2/5) with Client Service Advocate to pass along quick books and invoicing information. Collected donation of baby blankets from the Women of Epiphany baby blanket making event (1/15). Networked with new police officer at the coon rapids police kids' safety program and exchanged program details (1/29). Attended training about homelessness prevention in Anoka County (2/5) and a violence against women training (2/19). Tracked distribution and purchased additional pack and plays and car seats at extremely discounted rate. Trained two new baby closet volunteers (3/5) and researched adding additional closet visits for the spring and summer. Collected donation of 25 new baby bullet baby food makers and 20 new baby monitors.	
Administrative Activities	Client Service Advocate: maintain client tracking program and database and review for possible updating; recruit, train and evaluate care line volunteers; administer Hotline; review intakes; update training manuals; update volunteers regarding policies, procedures and resources; coordinate companion education/training, provide speakers, communicate/support companion, assess companion support and client satisfaction; coordinate Angel Wings miscarriage support program and volunteers; investigate and develop social media; investigate and develop new fundraising options		Met with Service Coordinator (2/5) and did cross training on quick books and other grant related invoicing. Reviewed evaluation results regarding car seat program and met with support assistant to implement changes to improve retention of the car seat safety education (2/26). Networked with local foster parents and new child protection social workers at support group meeting (2/10). Attended training on the importance of culture and its impact on providing social services (3/5). Continue to manage social media presence on Facebook to provide additional support to clients and outreach to potential clients. Applied for two additional grants	

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			to expand nutrition options for clients. Recruited a new mentor for the companion program.	
Administrative Activities	Support Assistant: Procure car seats; review and update baby bed and car seat application protocols, and guidelines; provide assistance in completing financial assistance applications; schedule and meet new clients regarding Safe Sleep education and car seat safety, provide additional resources as needed		The support assistant continued to review and provide support to clients in filling out applications for qualifying programs. Distributed pack and plays and sleep safety education and car seats and car safety education. Met with CSA to improve on car seat distribution based on information from the previous year evaluation (2/26). Also networked with local home day care providers to provide information about our services (3/4, 3/26).	
Outreach	Increase community access and visibility; continue community education and maintain contacts		The Support Assistant met two local shelter programs Family Promise (1/6) and The Dwelling Place (1/7) to exchange information about services offered. Also participated in outreach at a Women of Epiphany event (1/15) where blankets were made to distribute to clients. The Client Service Advocate attended the Cars for Neighbors (a not for profit that provides free or discounted car repair) annual fundraiser.	
Car Seat Program	Provide car seat education and installation training to clients	6	Reviewed and provided support to clients for 15 car seat applications. Distributed car seats and car seat safety education to 6 clients.	6
Case Management Services	Client Service Advocate (CSA) provides assessment and support; follow- up regarding need for necessary services; provide additional information and support.	50	Provided case management services to 69 clients, through follow up calls and continued mentoring. Helped 2 clients connect with public health nurses. Provided support and referral information on adoption services to 1 client. Additionally, helped 1 client connect with employment guidance and resume building. Also provided continued	69

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			emotional support to two clients without any local family support.	
Crib Distribution/ Sleep Safety Education	Review applications and distribute pack and plays and cribs to qualifying clients; provide Sleep Safety Education to clients receiving baby beds.	8	Reviewed and provided support to clients on 22 pack and play applications. Distributed a pack and play and safe sleep education to 13 clients.	13
Financial Assistance	Assist clients in completing financial assistance applications; provide food gift cards for specialty formula or diapers and gas cards for transportation to school or work	17	The support assistant reviewed 37 financial applications and called clients back to confirm information and help with the completion of applications.	37
Hotline	Provide 24 hour care line for personal support; offer necessary services to callers	10	The CSA answered 137 calls total, and 10 clients received necessary service information through the hotline only.	10
Material Support	Provide baby and maternity clothing and other items for pregnant and parenting women	15	Sixty-five clients visited the baby closet and received material support.	65
Mentoring Program	Provide long term support to clients through trained companions/mentors.	2	Three clients received extensive long term emotional support. Two clients received emotional support for a pregnancy loss. One client received guidance for finding parenting education and support. Recruited and began training a new companion for client mentoring.	3

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Nutrition	Provide baby food and formula; provide food shelf assistance	4	Twenty-four clients received nutrition support; 12 requested formula and 6 requested baby food. Six additional clients received baby bullet baby food makers for continued nutrition support.	24
Provide Necessary Services Assessments Only	Staff provides clients only intake assessments, information on, referral to and assistance with securing necessary services	10	Provided intake assessments only and assistance through referrals to 17 clients.	17
Transportation	Provide transportation resources to clients and gas cards to qualified clients	15	Thirty-seven clients received transportation resources.	37

Maternal and Child Health Initiative Task Force Strategies	No.
<i>Number of women who received car seats and car seat safety education from a PA funded program activity</i>	6
<i>Number of women who received car seat safety education only from a PA funded program activity</i>	37
<i>Number of women who received child abuse prevention education from a PA funded program activity</i>	37
<i>Number of women who received abusive head trauma (shaken baby) prevention education from a PA funded program activity</i>	37
<i>Number of women who received a baby bed, crib, or pack-n-play and sleep safety education from a PA funded program activity</i>	13
<i>Number of women who received sleep safety education only from a PA funded program activity</i>	37

Challenges:

Comments: